

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly amend claims 1-5 and add new claims 6-9, as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

**Claim 1 (currently amended):** A method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device, comprising:

~~a step of~~ pressing a first substrate and a support substrate against each other under vacuum conditions;

~~a step of~~ breaking said vacuum conditions and transferring said first substrate and said support substrate into an external atmospheric pressure environment while keeping said first substrate and said support substrate being pressed against each other to attach said first substrate and said support substrate to each other;

~~a step of~~ disposing said first substrate pressed against and attached to said support substrate and a second substrate so that said first substrate and said second substrate are aligned with each other while interposing a sealing material therebetween; and

~~a step of~~ curing said sealing material to attach said first substrate and said second substrate to each other via said sealing material.

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ pressing a first substrate and a support substrate against each other under vacuum conditions is performed by pressing said first substrate and said support substrate against each other so that a surface of an alignment film formed on said

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first substrate and a roughened surface previously formed on a press tool each other are disposed to face each other.

**Claim 3 (currently amended):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, further comprising ~~a step of~~ removing said support substrate from said first substrate after ~~the step of~~ curing said sealing material to attach said first substrate and said second substrate to each other.

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 3, wherein ~~the step of~~ removing said support substrate from said first substrate is performed by threading a thin strip between said first substrate and said support substrate.

**Claim 5 (currently amended):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 3, further comprising ~~a step of~~ injecting a liquid crystal material into a space enclosed by said first substrate, said second substrate and said sealing material after ~~the step of~~ removing said support substrate from said first substrate.

**Claim 6 (new):** A method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device, comprising:  
pressing a first substrate and a support substrate against each other under vacuum conditions;

breaking said vacuum conditions and transferring said first substrate and said support substrate into an external atmospheric pressure environment while keeping said first substrate and said support substrate being pressed against each other to attach said first substrate and said support substrate to each other;

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disposing said first substrate pressed against and attached to said support substrate and a second substrate so that said first substrate and said second substrate are aligned with each other while interposing a sealing material therebetween; and

curing said sealing material to attach said first substrate and said second substrate to each other via said sealing material, wherein pressing a first substrate and a support substrate against each other under vacuum conditions is performed by pressing said first substrate and said support substrate against each other so that a surface of an alignment film formed on said first substrate and a roughened surface previously formed on a press tool each other are disposed to face each other.

**Claim 7 (new):** A method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device, comprising:

pressing a first substrate and a support substrate against each other under vacuum conditions;

breaking said vacuum conditions and transferring said first substrate and said support substrate into an external atmospheric pressure environment while keeping said first substrate and said support substrate being pressed against each other to attach said first substrate and said support substrate to each other;

disposing said first substrate pressed against and attached to said support substrate and a second substrate so that said first substrate and said second substrate are aligned with each other while interposing a sealing material therebetween;

curing said sealing material to attach said first substrate and said second substrate to each other via said sealing material; and

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removing said support substrate from said first substrate after curing said sealing material to attach said first substrate and said second substrate to each other.

**Claim 8 (new):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 7, wherein removing said support substrate from said first substrate is performed by threading a thin strip between said first substrate and said support substrate.

**Claim 9 (new):** The method for manufacturing a liquid crystal display device according to claim 7, further comprising injecting a liquid crystal material into a space enclosed by said first substrate, said second substrate and said sealing material after removing said support substrate from said first substrate.

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